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Docket No. 60716 (70904)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Matsushita, et al.

Confirmation: 5739

U.S.S.N.: 10/767,750

Art Unit: 2861

FILED: January 28, 2004

Examiner: Vo, Anh T.N.

FOR: Image forming apparatus

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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By: 

Helen Murray Tarbi

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the Office Action dated December 20, 2005, claims 1-42 are pending. Election of one of the following patentably distinct species is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of the claimed invention:

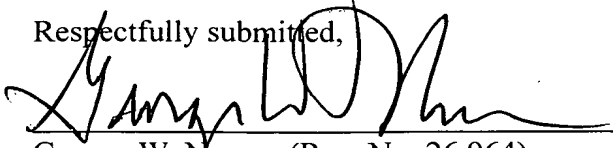
Group 1: Image forming apparatus satisfies: $F' < 1(N.R)$ Group 2: Image forming apparatus satisfies: $D_N < F' < 1(N.R)$ Group 3: Image forming apparatus satisfies: $4.\eta/D_N - |Ph| > 4.\eta/F' > |P\mu| + |Pi|$
 $P\mu = (k/A. \{\mu.L.(N.R)^2/S\}.Q$ Group 4 Image forming apparatus satisfies: $\eta > N.R.B > 2.\gamma.h$

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group 3, without traverse, for further examination in the present application.

An early examination and notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 20, 2006



George W. Neuner (Reg. No. 26,964)
EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE, LLP
P.O. Box 55874
Boston, MA 02205
Tel: (617) 439-4444

Customer No. 21874